

Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council
Plymouth-Trinity United Church
Order of Worship

December 23, 2018, Fourth of Advent

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

Call to worship

Children's time

***Gathering hymn** **VU 7**

Hope is a star, Peace is a ribbon, Joy is a song, Love is a flame

Advent candle lighting (See insert)

***Opening hymn** **VU 36**

Angels, from the realms of glory

Prayer of confession and Affirmation of grace

***Response** **VU 23**

Joy shall come even to the wilderness,
and the parched land shall then know great gladness;
as the rose, as the rose shall deserts blossom,
deserts like a garden blossom.
For living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow;
for living springs shall give cool water,
in the desert streams shall flow.

OT: Old Testament

NT: New Testament

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

* the congregation standing, as able

***Affirmation of faith**

***Hymn**

MV 173

Put peace into each other's hands

Prayer for illumination

Scriptures

Micah 5:2-5a

(OT 865)

Luke 1:46b-55

(VU p 898-9)

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

(NT 57)

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message : The birth and birthing of Love

Personal reflection

***Hymn**

VU 30

Hail to God's own anointed

Minute for mission

Offering

***Offertory/Prayer of dedication**

VU 537

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share. Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Announcements and sharing in the life of the community

**Acknowledging the land and Prayers of the people
followed by the Lord's Prayer**

***Hymn**

VU 48

Hark the herald angels sing

***Benediction**

***Closing response**

MV 221

I am walking a path of *love*

I am walking a path of *love*, I am walking a path of *love*,
I am walking a path of *love*, lead me home, lead me home,
I am home.

Postlude

Carol singing around the piano

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Announcements

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the gentle winds of the Holy Spirit breathe Love upon us as we await the coming of Emmanuel.

Bienvenue à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des **Bibles en français** se trouvent à l'arrière.

If you are a visitor, please join us for fair-trade coffee or a cold drink after the service and take a peace candle back to your congregation. You will find the candles on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

We thank our volunteers:

Reader: Selma Chipenda-Dansokho

Ushers: Selma Chipenda-Dansokho & Jim Innes

Sexton: Jim Innes

Happy birthday to Kristi Roht (Dec. 24), Brett Bryant (Dec. 27), Hazel Innes (Dec. 28); happy anniversary to Irma & Jules Perron (Dec. 23).

Bulletin covers 2019: Inge Lunkenbein (819-346-7750) is collecting donations for 2019: \$10 a Sunday in memory of a loved one. Sign up at table at the back of the sanctuary.

Falling ice warning: Please don't park too close to the building, as ice may slide off the roof and smash onto you or your vehicle.

The church office will be closed for the holidays; the secretary returns Thursday, January 3.

Minister's Christmastide holidays: Samuel is taking a bit of time off, from Dec 26 to 28, from January 2 to 4, and from the 8th to the 10th. Samuel will still be available for emergencies, and you can always see him right after worship services!

My Christmas Gift, for the Mission and Service of The United Church of Canada. Envelopes for this special donation are available today, tomorrow and on December 30. Please be generous.

Today

Christmas-time can be difficult for some; AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meets at P-T every Sunday night, at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Tomorrow

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve / Veillée de Noël

Lectionary readings: Isaiah 9:2-7 Ésaïe; Psalm 96 Psaume; Titus 2:11-14 Tite; Luke 2:1-14, (15-20) Luc

Our traditional Christmas Eve worship service, at 7:30 p.m., a bilingual, candlelight service with Communion (and a baptism); children's activities, but no Sunday school. We will also be receiving new members.

Notre culte de la veillée de Noël aura lieu à 19h30, un culte bilingue (à la lumière de bougies) avec Sainte Cène (et un baptême). Il y aura des activités pour les enfants, mais pas d'école du dimanche; des nouveaux membres seront accueillis.

Please let the minister know if somebody would like to receive Communion at home or in hospital.

The wooden Benevolent Fund box will be on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Each time we share in Holy Communion we have the opportunity to donate to this fund which is used

to purchase food vouchers for the minister to distribute to people in need, including our own members.

Next week

Sunday, Dec. 30, 1st after Christmas

Lectionary readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Worship in English at 10:30 a.m.; culte en français à 13 h

United Church of Canada / Église Unie du Canada

Need a last-minute gift? Perhaps for someone who has everything, or perhaps you're looking for a gift with meaning? Consider giving a perfect gift, by making a donation to the United Church's Mission and Service or the local food bank, Moisson Estrie, in the name of a family member or friend. Hand-made cards are available, in English and French, on the tables at the front and back of the sanctuary.

We thank Janet McBurney for these beautiful cards.

Open to the Spirit: the Soul's Alphabet, Awakening – Zeal: Reflections and ideas for writing. This booklet contains weekly columns from *The Sherbrooke Record* by the Rev. Mead Baldwin, the Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, and others. It is available at \$18 from Mead at 819-837-1112 or meadbaldwin@live.com and Lee Ann at 819-571-7233 or lahogle@cgocable.ca ; all profits to local United Church endeavours.

Six minutes daily for Advent: This Advent, United Church of Canada Moderator Richard Bott invites us to reflect and realign our lives with Christ's calling. Would you be willing to set aside six minutes each day during Advent to join the Moderator in "rebalancing" our lives?

Also, please consider sharing some insights you discover through this devotional exercise on social media using the hashtags #UCCan and #rebalance. Find out more by watching the five-

minute video and sharing it, at
www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcyJs0eEjOQ&feature=youtu.be
Et en français... l'Avent, c'est un temps de réflexion pour rétablir
l'équilibre dans nos vies. Le modérateur de l'Eglise Unie du
Canada, Richard Bott, fait le point dans son message pour
l'Avent 2018; vous le trouverez ici :
« egliseunie.ca/message-du-moderateur-richard-bott-pour-lavent-2018/ »

Outreach

The local food bank assists 60 families each day as well as providing food for almost 50 other community organisations. Especially needed at this time of year are baking ingredients (flour, sugar...), pasta, rolled oats, cereals and tinned food. There are boxes marked for the Moisson Estrie food bank at the front and back of the sanctuary. Hunger still helps define poverty. Cheques are also welcome!

The United Church's Gifts with Vision – to help us celebrate special occasions throughout the year—no wrapping paper necessary! There are gifts of food for people near and far, for our United Spirit/Esprit Uni summer camp, solar power gifts, gifts for beekeepers, gifts for reconciliation, and more at giftswithvision.ca . You will also find paper copies of the 2018/19 catalogue at the back of the sanctuary and opposite the coffee table.